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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IRAQI DATE CROP FORECAST 30 PERCENT UNDER RECORD YIELD OF '54

Preliminary reports from Basra indicate a 30 percent smaller Iraqi date crop than in 1954. This would mean a 1955 pack of 270,000 short tons, compared with the 350,000-ton bumper crop last year.

The quality of the 1955 crop cannot as yet be accurately estimated. However, as there have been few dust storms thus far, the fruit will probably be cleaner than usual. The unusual persistence of northerly winds this year has delayed ripening of the dates, and the sugar content may not be up to usual standards.

It is anticipated that even this reduced crop will present marketing problems. Trade sources have reported contracts for the sale of 26,500 short tons in the United States and Canada (chiefly of Hallawis), and of 5.500 tons in the United Kingdom and Europe (mainly Sayirs). Some 2,000 tons (Khadrawis) are normally shipped to Australia. The Iraq Dates Trading Company (IDT) expects to send a representative to South America in the hope of opening up new outlets there.

The IDT is expected to act again this year as monopolist of the Basra date cror, with the packers and shippers acting as agents in processing and selling.

The IDT was unable to dispose of much of last year's accumulation of dates, and a substantial portion (about 50,000 tons) will have to be written off as unfit for human consumption. A large deficit resulted from the 1954-55 operations of IDT as a consequence of unlimited purchases at relatively high prices without regard to quality. Dates were even smuggled in from Iran and sold to the Company. The industry may eventually resort to a request for a subsidy by the Central Government. Suggestions are also being made that granting of import licenses for products of a foreign country be contingent upon its imports of Iraqi dates.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U.S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains.

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SWEDEN'S FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS DECLINE FURTHER

Each of the deciduous fruit crops, mostly apples, pears, plums, and cherries, in Sweden this year are expected to be only half as large as those of last year. This further decline in the estimated crop is attributable to unusually warm and dry weather in July which caused abnormal dropping of unripe fruit. The import embargoes for apples and pears are already in effect, but are expected to be lifted earlier this year than last to permit imports. The small fruit crop will increase the market for imported fruits and fruit products in Sweden.

U. K. APPLE CROP SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR

The United Kingdom Ministry of Agriculture reported in mid-August that both dessert and cooking apple crops will be smaller this year. This is particularly true of the variety Cox's Orange Pippins, an important dessert variety. There has been a heavy drop of fruit in the southeast, particularly of Beauty of Bath variety. As of mid-August fruit crops were in need of rain. Cooking apples are expected to be scarce.

The pear crop is making good progress but needs rain. Prospects are for a crop larger than last year, but supplies will not be plentiful. Picking of early varieties began in mid-August with others starting around September 1.

EAST EUROPEANS BUY CYPRUS LEMONS

East European buyers have shown a greater interest in Cyprus lemons than in any recent year. Hungary has booked \$112,000 worth and Rumania \$28,000, on a barter basis, and Czechoslovak importers are considering purchases amounting to \$56,000.

AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO IMPORTS AT RECORD LEVEL

Australian imports of unmanufactured tobacco during July 1954 - May 1955 totaled 41.9 million pounds, 6.8 million pounds greater than in the comparable period of 1953-54, and were larger than in any previous complete fiscal year. Imports of United States leaf reached a postwar high of 28.5 million pounds and represented about 70 percent of the total imports. Takings of Southern Rhodesian leaf also reached a new high level of 10.4 million pounds, and about 70 percent of the remaining leaf came from Canada.

CENTRAL AFRICAN FEDERATION TOBACCO EXPORTS UP IN FIRST EALF, '55

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco from the Central African Federation (the Rhodesias and Nyasaland) in January-June 1955 totaled 51.4 million pounds-up 9.1 percent from the 47.1 million pounds exported during the corresponding period in 1954. Flue-cured accounted for about 90 percent of total exports with most of the remainder being fire-cured.

Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco.

January-June, 1953-55

Country of : Destination :	1953	:	1954	•	1955
:	1,000 pounds	:	1,000 pounds	:	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom:	28,123	:	28,240	:	33,255
Australia	3,416	:	5,267	:	5,855
Union of So. Africa.:	1,196	•	465	:	1,501
Belgian Congo:	1,087		1,368	:	419
Denmark	548	:	2,387	:	727
Netherlands:	1,476	•	2,296	:	1,566
Republic of Germany .:	1,807	:	1,042	:	1,197
Belgium:	294	:	438	•	420
Norway	5	•	80	:	265
Portugal	w .	:	66	:	156
Other	3,728	:	5,487	:	6,058
:		:		:	
Total:	41,680	:	47,136	:	51,419

Shipments to the United Kingdom totaled 33.3 million pounds as compared with 28.2 million pounds during the first 6 months of the previous year. Exports to other Commonwealth countries were 1.8 million pounds greater, mainly due to increased takings by Australia, the Union of South Africa, Hong Kong, Kenya, and the British West Indies. Increased exports to Australia are partly due to the tariff concession granted on tobacco imports from Southern Rhodesia, which now has been extended to the whole Federation by a recent trade agreement.

Shipments to non-Commonwealth countries declined 2.5 million pounds, with those to the Belgian Congo, The Netherlands, Egypt, and Denmark showing the greatest decrease. Western European countries increasing their takings of Federation leaf included Norway, Finland, Sweden, Ireland, Portugal, France, Switzerland, the Republic of Germany, and Spain.

GREEK TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN IN FIRST HALF, '55

Exports of Greek leaf during the first half of 1955 totaled 38.0 million pounds, and were 4.4 million pounds less than in the same period of 1954. Shipments to the Republic of Germany, the principal market in recent years, declined 1.7 million pounds from the corresponding period in 1954. Exports to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe were 3.8 million pounds less than last year. Increased consignments to Hungary were insufficient to balance the decline in exports to Eastern Germany, Poland, and the Soviet Union. Greek tobacco exports to the Soviet "Bloc" countries have been fostered by Trade and Payments Agreements.

Countries which reduced their takings of Greek leaf include France, Austria, Finland, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Israel, while the United States, Portugal, Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, Egypt and Sweden increased their takings of oriental leaf from the corresponding period in 1954.

Greece: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco, January-June 1953-55

Country of Destination:	1953	1954	•	1955
:	1,000	1,000	:	1,000
•	pounds	pounds	:	pounda
United States	5,780	5,304	:	8,405
Republic of Germany:	12,334 :	10,082	:	8,401
East Germany	3,108	2,647	:	1,920
France	4,126	4,094		2,760
Austria	4,445	2,995	•	2,468
Egypt	1,980	1,219	•	2,073
Soviet Union	3,434	4,920	•	1,427
Belgium	1/	86		1,695
Switzerland	$\overline{1}'$	209		1,080
Finland:	1,249	2,379	•	1,547
Hungary	975	961	•	2,133
Other	15,532	7,481	:	4,098
Total:	52,963	42,377	:	38,007
7 If our included in oth	0.50			

1/ If any, included in other.

Greece has concluded Trade Agreements recently with Spain and Czechoslovakia which include tobacco exports to the value of \$1 million to each of these countries. Also, an agreement with France provides for the export of 11 million pounds of Greek tobacco to France and the French Union during the year ending June 30, 1956. Exports of Greek leaf during the remaining 6 months of 1955 are expected to exceed the 73.2 million pounds exported during July-December 1954, in view of other trade agreements concluded with Poland, Portugal, and Hungary, and the largest postwar crop--totaling about 175 million pounds.

OUTPUT OF CIGARETTES IN PAKISTAN CONTINUES UPWARD

Output of cigarettes in Pakistan during 1954 totaled 4.6 billion pieces in an industry which was non-existent prior to 1948. Development of the cigarette industry was fostered by currency restrictions on imports of cigarettes and bidis. Most of the output of cigarettes is provided by 2 large factories at Karachi and a factory which is now in operation in Chittagong. Permission has been granted for erection of additional factories in the cities of Karachi and Chittagong, and also in the Provinces of Khaispur, Bahawalpur, the Western Punjab and the North-West Frontier. An annual production of about 10.0 billion pieces of cigarettes is antipated from these factories--sufficient to meet domestic demand.

Most of the leaf used in the production of cigarettes is of domestic origin, but some of the better grades of flue-cured are imported from the United States. Imports from the United States during 1953 and 1954 totaled 1.4 and 1.8 million pounds, respectively, and represented about 80 percent of Pakistan's total imports of unmanufactured tobacco. Additional quantities of the better grades of flue-cured will be required for blending purposes by the expanding cigarette industry.

BOLIVIAN CATTLE IMPORTS
DROP 50 PERCENT

Shipments of slaughter cattle into Bolivia, virtually all from Argentina, fell sharply in 1954. This decline is attributed to 2 factors; first, the shortage of foreign exchange and; second, the increasing success of the government in transporting slaughter cattle by air from the remote Beni agricultural region to the more populated center of Bolivia. Cattle imports, however, should substantially increase in 1955 as a result of Bolivia's barter agreement with Argentina of September 1954.

IRISH BEEF CATTLE EXPORTS
RISE SHARPLY

During the first 6 months of 1955 more than 67,000 fat cattle and 276,000 feeder cattle were exported from Ireland. This represents an increase of 40,000 head of fat cattle and 45,000 head of feeder cattle over the first half of 1954. Live cattle comprised about 37 percent in value of all exports during the first half of 1955 and 30 percent during the corresponding period last year. These figures indicate the dependence Ireland places on live cattle exports for payment of its foreign commitments.

Exports of fresh, cured, frozen, and canned meats declined sharply in value and accounted for only 16 percent of domestic exports during the 6-month period in 1955 compared with 27 percent in the corresponding period of 1954.

ITALIAN LIVESTOCK SITUATION

The decrease in forage and feed grain production in Italy during 1955 is expected to affect adversely meat production in the latter part of 1955 and in 1956. Since grains are also short, larger imports of corn and oats are anticipated, which may cover the gap in feed grain supplies.

During the first 2 months of 1955, about 76,700 head of cattle were imported, which is nearly equivalent to the 81,150 head imported in 1954. Hog imports for the similar period were 94,270 head as compared with about 23,350 head for the entire year of 1954.

MEAT EXPORTS TO CUBA CONTINUE LARGE

Imports of cured pork by Cuba during 1955 will probably be the largest in recent years. Imports during first half 1955 were 16 million pounds, or almost double the 9 million pounds received during January-June, 1954. All of these imports were received from the United States, except 83,500 pounds from Europe.

Imports of fresh beef, all of which were from the United States, reached 315,000 pounds for first half 1955, as compared with 227,000 pounds for the corresponding period in 1954. During the period imports of live animals were limited to small numbers of cattle and hogs brought in for breeding purposes.

The larger imports can be attributed mostly to relatively low prices which have prevailed since the beginning of the year and to relatively high consumer buying power.

By the middle of July, pastures had largely recovered from the dry season and cattle slaughtering had returned to normal. The quality of beef had also improved considerably, as animals were being marketed in better condition.

Cuba's exports of livestock byproducts consist principally of cattle bones, casings; trimmings, and tankage. During first half 1955, there were 5,730,000 pounds of cattle bones, 5,090,000 pounds of tankage; 5,100,000 pounds of trimmings, and 264,000 pounds of beef casings exported to the United States.

For first half 1955, commercial beef production was about 148 million pounds, and production from farm slaughter is roughly estimated at 2 million pounds. Slaughter houses are believed to have produced 12 million pounds of pork. In addition, production from farm slaughterings is tentatively estimated at 17 million pounds.

MEXICANS MAY LOWER CATTLE EXPORT QUOTA

A study is now being made by the Ministry of Agriculture to determine next year's cattle and beef export quotas. It is not expected that the quota will be announced before September, but indications are that it will probably be lower than in 1955. Drought has seriously affected cattle in some northern districts. It is reported that during the past few months a relatively large number of calves and cows were slaughtered and this will decrease the availability of cattle for export next year.

Total exports of live cattle from the reopening of the United States border on January 1, 1955, to the end of June 1955 totaled 206,816 head. In addition, 14 million pounds of beef was exported, of which 9 million pounds was chilled beef shipped to the United States and the remainder in the form of frozen carcasses to The Netherlands, Chile, Greece, Germany, and Puerto Rico. At present, only a few packing plants are operating and their output is relatively low. The meat-packing season will start again in mid-September or the beginning of October.

SWEDISH LIVESTOCK SITUATION

Numbers of most species of livestock declined according to the June 1 census for southern and central Sweden. Because of this year's poor hay crop, and below normal crop prospects in general, the number of milk cows is expected to show a further decline. The census covers only central and scuthern Sweden. However, these areas contain roughly 90 percent of Sweden's livestock population.

A 2-percent decline in number of milk cows was largely offset by an increase in number of heifers. Swedish consumers prefer meat from young cattle rather than from calves or mature animals. Calves intended for slaughter rose from about 140,000 in 1954 to about 155,000 in 1955.

Total number of sows declined 12 percent from 1954 to 1955, but those bred for the first time declined 32 percent. Number of young hogs (below 3 mo.) was also smaller than a year ago. Pork production, which reached a high level during the first months of 1955, will gradually decline and will soon fall below the level of last year.

Oxen and bulls numbered 36,400 on June 1, 1955 -- 600 head below June 1, 1954. Milk cows declined from 1,542,000 to 1,513,000 in the same period. Heifers increased by 22,000, from 520,000 in 1954 to 542,000 on June 1, 1955. There were 482,000 calves in Sweden on June 1 of this year--500 more than last year. The over-all hog population declined from 1,718,000 to 1,674,500 on June 1, 1955. A sharp decline was shown by sheep, which dropped from 234,500 in 1954, to 177,200.

PRICES WEAK AT OPENING OF AUSTRALIAN WOOL AUCTION

Prices for fine wools ranged downward to 10 percent below closing prices of June 30, and for crossbred wools to 7.5 percent lower, at the opening of the wool auction in Sydney, Australia, on August 29. The demand for burry wools was weak. This tendency towards weaker prices continued through the early part of the opening week of wool sales.

1954 DAIRY TRADE IN YUGOSLAVIA

In 1954, Yugoslavian dairy products were largely exported to nearby Western European countries, the United States, Egypt, and to some Middle-Eastern countries, according to the Yugoslav Federal Statistical Office.

Cheese was the largest single dairy export, with the Caciocavallo variety accounting for 82 percent of the 5.2 million pounds shipped. Greece took 3.5 million pounds of Caciocavallo at 26 cents per pound. The United States paid 45 cents per pound for 152 thousand pounds, or 17 cents above the average price of exports. All of the soft white cheese exported went to Greece and the United States; Greece paid 21 cents; the United States paid 27 cents. Other hard cheese accounted for the remainder of the cheese exports, and averaged 30 cents per pound.

Yugoslavia's imports of dairy products are neglible and in 1954 amounted to only \$1,200, according to the Statistical Office.

NEW ZEALAND TO USE "STARTER" BUTTER

Stirred by some complaints that New Zealand butter is too neutral in flavor to meet all taste preferences in competition for the British butter market, New Zealand dairy firms are making experimental quantities of a sharper flavored butter. The new butter is comparable to the Danish in that lactic acid development has been induced by addition of a starter. The usual New Zealand product is churned from sweet cream, with lactic acid development held in check.

It is not intended that New Zealand will produce more than a small quantity of this starter butter. While Danish butter commands a premium on the United Kingdom market, New Zealand butter is noted for its dependability, uniformity, and keeping quality. Many customers prefer, and ask for, New Zealand butter and, for this reason, the difference in flavor between the butters will be kept slight.

DAIRY INDUSTRY ADVANCES IN LEBANON

Adoption of modern methods has given considerable impetus to the dairying industry in Lebanon. Practices have been improved in feeding, breeding, housing, and sanitation. During the past year 65 head of dairy cows were imported, and another shipment of 50 head of purebred dairy cows from Europe is expected soon.

However, the need for additional milk continues, and Lebanon must still rely largely on imports for milk and milk products. Imports of cheese rose to slightly more than 5 million pounds in 1954, an increase of 25 percent over the 1951 figure and 9 percent over the 1953 figure. Middle Eastern Countries supplied 66 percent of the 1954 cheese imports, with most of the remainder coming from the major cheese exporters of Western Europe.

Processed milk products, powdered and condensed, amounted to 1.8 million pounds in 1954, an increase of 633 thousand pounds over 1953. The United States and Holland accounted for 86 percent of this figure, each supplying about 750 thousand pounds.

During the past 4 years, the butter intake of Lebanon has been unsteady. In 1954, 893 thousand pounds were imported, 60 percent above 1953, 18 percent below 1952, and 73 percent below 1951. Principal sources were Denmark, Holland, Australia, and New Zealand.

Takings of fresh and fermented milk and cream by Lebanon show a gradual decrease. During the last 4 years the figure dropped from 264 thousand pounds in 1951 to 55 thousand pounds in 1954.

Butter and cheese import duties are comparatively high in Lebanon. The butter duty is 10.2 cents per pound and the cheese duty is 6.4 cents per pound. Processed milk products have somewhat lower tariff rates. Evaporated and condensed milk have duties of 1.4 cents per pound and 3 cents per pound, respectively. Dried whole milk has a rate of 3.9 cents per pound, nonfat dried milk solids 1.3 cents per pound, and malted milk 5.7 cents per pound. Ice cream mix and infant foods have the highest import duty: each has a rate of 12.4 cents per pound.

FRUIT CROP OUTLOOK IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES

Sicily: The quality of all types of oranges is reported to be excellent; with production estimated about 40 percent higher than last year. The Mandarin crop is of good quality and slightly larger than last year. The lemon crop is small but early and sizes are large. Lemon harvest is expected to start about mid-September.

France: Total fruit production is about the same as last year, but the pear crop is about 12 percent higher. There will be an increase in American types of apples as the new plantings come into bearing. Heavier offerings of pears have already lowered prices. Walnut prospects are about the same, with a much larger chestnut crop in prospect.

Japan: Total fruit crop will be smaller because of a poor apple crop. Mandarin orange production will be about normal. Apples and oranges account for nearly 70 percent of Japan's total fruit production. Increases of from 20 to 40 percent are expected for peaches, pears, and grapes.

French North Africa: Indications are that an excellent crop of Clementines will be produced this year, and that the navel orange crop will be slightly larger than last year.

New Zealand: The stone fruit crop is estimated at 740,000 boxes, which is larger than the small 1954 crop. More than half the stone fruits are peaches with the balance apricots, plums, nectarines, and cherries. (Fruits listed in order of volume-high to low--produced.)

GREECE SELLS CITRUS TO SOVIET UNION

Greece has agreed to sell \$200,000 worth of citrus to the Soviet Union under a new trade agreement which extends through 1956.

ISRAEL CITRUS EARLY

Picking of citrus in Israel is expected to begin the latter part of September-about 2 weeks early. Production is indicated to be about 2 million boxes larger than last year, with anticipated exports about 1.3 million boxes larger. Most of the increase is expected in Jaffa Shamouti oranges. Exporters are expecting to double sales to the Soviet Union and to West Germany.

TURKISH-BRITISH TRADE AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENT OF 1945 EXPIRES

The Trade and Payments Agreement between Turkey and the United Kingdom, which was signed on May 4, 1945 and came into force May 21, 1945, expired June 30, 1955. The lapse was permitted because of changes in the international economic situation and probably in British economic policy since 1945.

On the grounds that the international economic situation and the economic policy of the United Kingdom had changed significantly since 1945, the United Kingdom is reported to have informed Turkey in January 1955 that it did not wish to renew the 1945 agreement. The agreement was originally for a 10-year term, to expire April 30, 1955, with the provision that it was to be renewed unless denounced by either party. At a Turkish request that the British decision be reconsidered, notes were exchanged extending the agreement until June 30, 1955.

Upon expiration of the 1945 agreement, Turkey entered as of July 1, 1955, into the sterling "transferable account area." This will allow Turkey to spend its sterling freely within the sterling area, and to convert its sterling freely into currencies of other transferable-account countries (except into dollars).

JAMAICA PROVIDES FUNDS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF U. S. SURPLUS FOOD PRODUCTS

The Jamaican Government has proposed that \$92,400 be authorized to defray the cost of transporting, storing, and distributing gifts of dairy products from United States Government supplies. Butter and cheese, donated through Church World Services, Inc., would provide half an ounce of cheese and 2 pats of butter weekly to the 120,000 children in the state-supported schools of Jamaica during the next 2 school years.

The bill has the support of both parties in the Jamaican legislature, which is determined that distribution should be strictly controlled. The Minister of Finance stated that Jamaicans "accept this (gift of dairy products) as part of what we hope will be rapidly and more widely expanding experiments in the field of international cooperation."

EGYPT CHANGES ENTITLEMENT ACCOUNT SYSTEM FOR COTTON: REDUCES EXPORT TAX

Effective September 1, 1955, the Government of Egypt has announced that the entitlement account system for cotton exports has been abolished for sterling and deutschmarks, but retained for dollars. At the same time it was announced that cotton export taxes had been reduced from 15 to 8 tallaris per kantar for Karnak and Menoufi varieties, and from 10 to 2 tallaris per kantar for Ashmouni and Giza 30 varieties. The tax reductions were also effective September 1. Approximate equivalents of the tax reductions in United States cents per pound were as follows: Karnak and Menoufi varieties from 8.77 to 4.62 cents; Ashmouni and Giza 30 varieties from 5.88 to 1.15 cents. Additional details will be reported at a later date,

EFFECT OF PAKISTAN DEVALUATION OF RUPEE ON COTTON PRICES

Net effect of the 30 percent devaluation of the Pakistani rupee on July 31, 1955, as of the end of August, has been to reduce the price of cotton by about 5 U.S. cents per pound (289F Punjab SG, Fine, reduced from 38 cents to 33 cents).

Later action on August 22 raising the cotton export tax 50 percent on all varieties except short staple Desi types (90 to 135 rupees per bale of 400 pounds gross) has by and large merely offset the effect of the devaluation on the tax itself. Export tax on non-Desi types prior to devaluation was 6.93 cents per pound as compared with 7.23 cents after the tax increase.

Details of the changes as they affected cotton prices and export taxes are illustrated in the following table: (Text continues next page.)

Comparative prices of Pakistani cotton in Karachi, July-August 1955

Туре	: Spot		Export	:	Total
-71-	: quotation		tax		price
	(equivalent	U.S.	cents	per	pound)
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	.a		-		
July 27	 31.07		6.93		38.00
August 10	 25.97	• •	4.82		30.79
August 24	25.89	*.	7.23		33.12
Sind Desi, Fine	07 62		1, 60		06 05
July 27	21.63 18.38	•	4.62		26.25
August 10 August 24	 17.99		3.21	-	21.20
August 24	11.79		2.21		

Results of the government's action to bring about a higher rupee price to growers, as a means of increasing cotton production and exports, have been modified by increased prices in the things farmers have to buy. Cotton prices may be subject to further adjustments as the new crop begins to move, which will narrow the current spread between Pakistan and other growths.

PERU'S 1955 TANGUIS COTTON CROP ESTIMATE REDUCED

Unfavorable weather conditions which delayed Peru's 1955 Tanguis cotton crop have reduced earlier estimates of this variety by about 6 percent, although the record 1954 Pima-Karnak crop will offset the loss for the over-all August-July 1954-55 year. Estimated production for the last 2 years is:shown in the following table:

Peru: Estimated production of cotton by major variety groups, years beginning August 1, 1953-1955

(Bales of 500 pounds gross) Picking 1954-55 1955-56 1953-54 Variety season 1,000 1,000 1.000 bales bales bales 46 78 Pima and Karnak : Aug.-Sept. 70 429 405 Tanguis and other: April-June n.a. 483 Total

Early indications of the Pima-Karnak crop for 1955 forecast a production of about 70,000 bales or about 10 percent less than the previous year. No major expansion of cotton production in Peru is foreseen within the next several years. It is reported that any increase in acreage planted to cotton would have to come from a shift from other crops, and that irrigation facilities are already expanded to apparent limits.

Peru's cotton exports during the first ll months (August-June) of the 1954-55 marketing year amounted to 281,000 bales or 9 percent less than exports of 308,000 bales in the comparable period of last year. Exports to Chile increased sharply during the period under review, amounting to 59,000 bales or 21 percent of the total, as compared with 30,000 bales or 10 percent of the total a year ago. Exports to the United States, mostly of extra-long staple Pima and Karnak increased from 8,000 bales in August-June 1953-54, to 22,000 bales in the current period.

Other principal destinations of Peru's August-June 1954-55 cotton exports, with comparable figures for 1953-54 in parentheses were as follows: Belgium 42,000 (40,000); United Kingdom 35,000 (77,000); Western Germany 31,000 (41,000); France 20,000 (22,000); Japan 13,000 (10,000); Switzerland 12,000 (6,000); The Netherlands 12,000 (24,000); Colombia 6,000 (18,000); and Argentina 3,000 (12,000).

Peru's cotton consumption for the August-July 1954-55 marketing year is estimated at 75,000 bales, an increase of 15 percent over consumption of 65,000 bales in 1953-54. This increase is attributed to a steadily increasing local demand for textiles, which has been accelerated by the advance in duties on imported textiles in October 1954.

Average prices paid to producers of Tanguis cotton, Type 5, were around 31 cents in January and February 1955, declined to 28.5 cents in March, but recovered to about 30 cents in June. Prices for Pima, Type 1, declined from around 40 cents per pound in January to about 36 cents in June. These prices do not include export taxes which amounted to 6.27 cents per pound for Tanguis, Type 5, on July 1, and 7.12 cents for Pima, Type 1.

Cotton stocks on August 18, 1955, were reported at 178,000 bales, as compared with 112,000 bales on August 19, 1954.

CAPETOWN TO ENLARGE PRECOOLING FACILITIES FOR FRUIT

The British Fruit Trades Journal reports that the precooling storage space at Capetown, South Africa, will be increased by 5,000 long tons at a cost of \$2,800,000. This will give the Deciduous Fruit Board storage facilities for 12,600 long tons. The extension is designed so that an additional 10,000 tons of space can be added. This will avoid congestion during peak loading periods, February through April.

WILLIAM PEARS ARE IN HEAVY SUPPLY IN FRANCE

William pears will be in heavy supply in France during September, and fruit producers have requested the Minister of Agriculture to take emergency action to check a slump in prices. The Ministry agreed to study measures for supporting prices.

DUTCH FRUIT CROP DAMAGED

Heavy rains and hail damaged Dutch fruit crops the last week in August.

NEW RECORD JULY 1 CRAIN STOCKS REPORTED

Grain stocks in the 4 principal exporting countries reached a new record on July 1, 1955, according to estimates of the Foreign Agricultural Service. The estimated total for the 5 major grains is tentatively placed at 116 million short tons, 2.5 million tons above the previous record of a year ago. This marks the third consecutive record established, beginning with July 1, 1953. The current estimate, though only 2 percent above the 1954 total, is more than double the 1945-49 average.

The increase over last year's previous high is attributed to the substantial increase in United States stocks. That increase more than offset declines in total grain stocks in the other 3 countries. The largest decline was in Canada's stocks, which were about 28 percent below the record July 1, 1954, total. The reduction in the Argentine stocks was also sizable, while only a minor reduction is noted for Australia.

As was the case last season, exportable surpluses in the principal exporting countries greatly exceed expected requirements of the importing countries. Despite smaller crops than were harvested last year in some countries, especially in Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and Scandinavia, total production for Western Europe is expected to be around the high level of the 1954 harvest. The quality of the grain is generally higher, which would further reduce import requirements. The largest offsetting increase to those reductions is for Italy, where an increase of more than 20 percent is currently forecast.

The outlook for the minor exporting countries, though not definitely established, seems fairly certain to provide more grain for export than was available from these countries last year. The increase is mostly in Turkey, with an increase of about 70 million bushels likely. That much more than offsets a decline in Syria and Sweden, both minor exporters in recent years. France, which has in the past few years been an active exporter, is expected to have a crop approaching the all-time record harvest of 1954. The quality of the 1955 crop is said to be much higher and moisture content lower than that of the 1954 harvest. Prospects for eastern Europe indicate a larger total production for that area than the comparatively small 1954 outturn.

Of the 116 million tons of grain estimated on hand July 1, 1955, 83 million tons, or more than 70 percent of the total, was in the United States. This is a larger proportion of the total than is normally held in the United States. Canada's 18.5 million tons account for 16 percent of the total and Argentina and Australia hold 7 and 5 percent, respectively, of that total. Present stocks are still well above average in Canada and Australia but total grain stocks in the Argentine are below average, largely because of reduced stocks of corn.

A distinction is noted between grain stocks in the 2 Southern Hemisphere exporting countries and those of the Northern Hemisphere. In the former, these are mid-season supplies, representing grain for export, for domestic use to the end of the current crop season, and carryover. Thus, stocks of small grains in Argentina and Australia are for use to December 1, and corn to April 1, the beginning of the new season. In contrast, July 1 stocks in Northern Hemisphere countries approximate the year-end carryover of small grains. Stocks of small grains represent actual carryover into the new marketing season in the United States, while in Canada the marketing season starts August 1. The marketing season begins October 1 for corn in the United States.

Grain stocks in the United States reached an all-time high of 83.4 million short tons on July 1, exceeding the previous record in 1954 by 11 million tons. Substantial increases are reported for all grains, with new record figures for wheat, corn, barley, and oats bringing the total considerably above that of any previous year. Stocks of old wheat evods alended totaled 1,020 million bushels, 118 million bushels above the previous record in 1954. While total wheat stocks set a new record, the amount of old wheat remaining on farms was only 38 million bushels, the smallest in that position since 1937.

Stocks of corn on July 1 were 1,577 million bushels. This is 170 million bushels more than the previous record on July 1, 1954. Again stocks on farms were less than those of a year ago but stocks in other positions were up sharply, especially stocks owned by the CCC. Record carryover stocks of barley and oats were reflected in increased farm stocks as well as in commercial positions.

Canada's July 1 stocks of the 5 grains covered by this report are estimated at 18.5 million short tons, compared with 25.6 a year ago and the 1945-49 average of 7.5 million tons. Supplies of all grains are smaller. Wheat stocks on July 1 were estimated at 510 million bushels. Though well below the record of 615 million bushels last year, this is more than triple the 1945-49 average. An indicated increase in production more than offsets the decline in stocks and the total supply of wheat for the 1955 marketing season is now expected to be about 100 million bushels more than in 1954-55. Stocks of oats, estimated at 50 million bushels, were sharply below those of the past 4 years and also well below average. The total supply will be somewhat larger than last year, however, because of a larger crop. Barley stocks were estimated at 75 million bushels. Though the lowest in 3 years this is well above average. Total supplies for the current marketing season are expected to be about 10 percent larger than those of last year, despite the sharp cut in stocks.

No official estimates are made for Argentina's midseason stocks, but unofficial estimates show a smaller supply of grain on hand on July 1 of the current year, mainly because of a sharp drop in corn stocks. Supplies of that grain are short because of the small crop harvested this season, as a result of drought. (Cont'd., next page.)

Grains: Estimated stocks in principal exporting countries, July 1, 1955 with comparisons

Country and year	: Wheat	Rye	Barley	: Oats 1/	Corn	Total
	: Million				Million	1,000 short
United States			:			
1945	: 279					35,842
1946	: 100				,,	23,924
1947 1948	: 196					22,696
1949	307_					51,974
Average 1945-49	193		73			32,524
1950	425	10	OU	211	1,101	56,994
1951	396	2	94	292	1,256	54,116
1952	: 256	4				: 41,232
1953	: 562					57,680
1954	: 902				- 3-4 - 1	72,308
1955 2/	: 1,020					83,364
Canada 1945	314					12,940
1946	: 104				3/	5,968
1947	: 124				3/	6,323
1948	: 105	1		: 71	3/	5,393
1949	: 135	12	: 40			6,791
Average 1945-49	157				3/	7.483
1950	140				and ,	6,306
1951 1952 r	: 235 : 280				<u>3/</u>	10,988
19 <i>5</i> 2	\$ 425		_ 17		2/	75
1954	: 615			_ 1.7.	<u>3/</u> 3/	19,349 25,569
1955 2/	: 510				3/	25,569 18,482
Argentina	:	•			2/	:
1945	: 175	. 8				11,470
1946	: 115					8,334
1947	: 125 :					: 11,970
1948	: 130			-		: 11,440
1949	125		15			10.958
Average 1945-49	134					10,834
1950	100	0	12	40	2)	79476
1951	* 85 * 35		~)	22	70	0,000
1952 1953	: 160					3,910 10,996
1954	: 155					10,090
1955 2/	: 165					8,738
Australia						
1945	: 50	3/			3/,	: 1,668
1946	: 68	3/			: 3/	2,424
1947	: 58	3/			3/	2,068
1948 1949	: 105	2/		-	<u>3/</u> 3/	3,790 3,130
	75					2.616
Average 1945-49 1950	120					3,960
1951	: 100	3/			3/	3,352
1952	: 80				,	2,728
1953	: 95	: 3/	: 12		3/	3,538
1954	: 155	3/	: 11	: 40	· 3/,	5,554
1955 2/	: 160		_	-		5,456
Total						(7, 620
1945 1946	: 818 : 387					61,920
1947	: 387 : 391					40,650
1948	: 536	: 14				43,319
1949	662					72.853
Average 1945-49	559					53.457
1950	785					72,392
1951	: 816	26	_			75,106
1952	651					61,210
1953	: 1,242	: 66		: 514	: 1,378	91,563
1954	: 1,827	: 49		: 465	: 1,552	: 113,521
1955 2/	: 1,855	: 43	: 243	: 423		: 116,040

1/ Canadian cats reported in bushels of 34 pounds; in other countries bushels of 32 pounds.
2/ Preliminary estimates.
3/ Production small and remaining stocks believed to be negligible.

Estimated corn stocks of 85 million bushels contrast with the July 1954 stocks of 145 million and the average of 187 million. oats and rye remaining on July 1 were also less than average. Wheat and barley stocks, however, were above average. Wheat stocks, estimated at 165 million bushels, compare with the 1945-49 average of 134 million bushels.

Stocks of all grains in Australia on July 1 are estimated to be about 5.5 million short tons. This is very little change from the large supplies of a year ago. Both wheat and oats stocks are more than double the average figures for 1945-49. Wheat, at 160 million bushels, compares with 155 million bushels on July 1, 1954. Stocks of oats, as estimated at 32 million bushels are less than the record stocks of 40 million bushels at that time last year but are well above the average of 13 million bushels.

CANADA REPORTS LARGER GRAIN CROP THAN IN 1954

Canada's 1955 grain production will be substantially above last year's relatively low levels, according to the first official forecast by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. On the basis of yields indicated August 15, production of all grains will be larger than in 1954, but the largest increase will be for wheat. Realization of the forecast outturns will depend on continuation of favorable weather conditions. The report points out that late-seeded crops, which have not reached maturity, must be considered vulnerable to frost damage.

The wheat harvest is forecast at 501 million bushels, compared with only 299 million bushels last year and the 1945-49 average of 366 million. If the wheat harvest turns out as large as expected, a total supply of 982 million bushels would be available for all purposes in the 1955-56 marketing season. That would be 100 million bushels more than the supply for 1954-55 and would approximate the all-time record supply for 1953-54. The increase over last year's production is entirely attributed to better yield prospects since the total acreage seeded to wheat is 11 percent less than in 1954.

Of the total wheat production, the forecast is for 19.9 million bushels of winter wheat in Ontario. This is the only Province for which Winter wheat is reported separately. Other Provinces growing minor quantities of winter wheat include it with spring wheat reports. decline of 4.3 million bushels in Ontario's crop is caused by a substantial cut in acreage. Yields are virtually the same as 1954 yields of 34 bushels per acre. Of the 481 million bushels now forecast for spring wheat, 478 million are in the Prairie Provinces.

CANADA: Grain acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1955 with comparisons

Year	Wheat	Rye	Oats <u>1</u> /	Barley	Mixed grains
3	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000:	1,000 :	1,000
:	acres :	acres :	acres :	acres :	acres
Acreage	e 6			:	
Average 1935-39	25,595:	816:		4,291:	1,166
1940-44	22,466:			6,461:	1,487
1945		487:		7,350:	1,453
1946	/	715:		6,258:	1,318
1947	• .	1,156:	· ·	7,465: 6,495:	1,150
1948	*	2,103: 1,182:		6,017:	1,542 1,683
1950		1,168:		6,6251	1,679
1951		1,127;		7,840:	1,524
1952		1,257:	* * .	8,477:	1,570
1953	•	1,494:		8,911:	1,445
1954				7,856:	1,633
1955 2/		778;		9,912	
Yield per acre	Bushels:		Bushels:		Bushels
Average 1935-39	12,2:				
1940-44		14.5:		27.4:	34.1
1945	13.6:				
1946	16.9:	12.3:			
1947	14.1:	11.4:			30.4
1948			-		40.2
1949	13.5:	11.4:			44.2
1951	21.9:	15.7:			
1952		19.5			_
1953		19.3:		29.4	43.0
1954	12.3:				
1955 2/	23.3:				
Production	1,000 :			1,000 :	
•	busheld :	bushels:	bushels:		
Average 1935-39		9,191:	338,071:	88,882:	38,507
1940-44	1000	13,222:		176,850:	50,700
1945		5,888:		157,757:	46,927
1946		8,811:		148,887:	53,031
1947	341,758:	13,217:		141,372:	34,929
1948	386,345:	25,340:		155,018:	61,947
1950,		10,011:	317,916:	120,408:	55,928
1951	461,664: 552,657:	13,333:	419,930:	171,393:	74,190
1952	687,922:	17,647: 24,557:	488,191: 466,805:	245,218:	68,509
1953	613,962:	28,775:	406,005	291,379:	63,205 62,188
1954	208 ana:	7/1 776 .	306,793:	175,509	61.454
1955 2/	500.587:	15,432:		268,798:	64,084
1/ As reported in bushels of	34 pounds	. 2/ Prel	iminary for	recast	<u> </u>

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Production of oats for grain in 1955 is forecast at 436 million bushels. This is an increase of 42 percent over the small crop of a year ago. It is, however, more than 200 million bushels below the record harvest of 1942. The expected increase results from a 29-percent increase in indicated yields, plus a 10-percent stepup in acreage. Larger yields are general, with the greatest increases reported for the Prairie Provinces, where the forecast is for a 320-million-bushel crop. Average yields in this area are now placed at 41.1 bushels per acre, compared with 29.2 bushels last year.

The barley crop, as forecast at 269 million bushels, would be the second largest of record. A crop that size would be 53 percent above the small 1954 harvest and 46 percent above the 10-year average. The area of 9.9 million acres is an all-time record, exceeding the previous record in 1953 by a million acres. Yields have been adversely affected by late seeding, heat, and aphid damage. The present forecast of 27.1 bushels per acre, though 22 percent above the small 1954 yields, is considerably below the yields of the previous 3 years.

Rye production is forecast at 15.4 million bushels compared with 14.2 million last year. It is 6 percent below the average of the past 10 years and less than half the record crop in 1922. Acreage is smaller than the 1954 acreage but yields are at a near-record level.

The harvest of mixed grains, grown mainly in eastern Provinces, is now expected to be 64 million bushels, compared with 61 million last year. A slight increase in acreage accounts for that increase, since yield prospects are the same as in 1954.

CANADA'S GRAIN STOCKS LESS THAN IN 1954

Total carryover stocks of the 4 major Canadian grains in all North American positions on July 31, 1955, were well below the record level of the previous year but were still sharply above average, according to official estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. On a tonnage basis the combined total of the 4 grains was 22 percent below the comparable estimate for 1954, but was almost double the average for the 10 years ended 1954. The greatest reduction was in wheat, which was off 102 million bushels from the record 1954 figure. Barley registered the second largest reduction, being down 59 million bushels.

Carryover stocks of wheat in all positions are estimated at 481 million bushels on July 31, the end of the old crop season. This is 17 percent below the record carryover a year ago. The bulk of the reduction is in farm stocks, which, at 101 million bushels, are less than half the record 1954 carryover on farms. Total rye stocks are estimated at 17.9 million bushels, about 7 percent less than the record carryover last year. It is, however, still more than two and a half times the average for the past 10 years. (Cont'd. next page.)

Berley stocks are estimated at 87 million bushels, compared with 146 million bushels last season. Though less than that record figure, the current stocks are well above the average of 56 million bushels during the past 10 years. Julyeard stocks of oats were estimated at 81 million bushels, well below those of the past 4 years. The current estimate contrasts with 126 million bushels in 1954 and the all-time record of 149 million in 1943.

CANADA: Carry-over stocks of grain in all positions, July 31, 1955, with comparisons 1/

Position	Wheat	0ats <u>2</u> /	Barley	Rye
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1000 : bushels	1000 : bushels	1000 : bushels :	1000 bushels
In Canada On farms Country elevators Interior private and mill elevators: Interior terminal elevators Pacific Coast terminals Churchill elevator Fort William - Port Arthur elevators Storage Afloat In transit - lake In transit - rail Eastern elevators Eastern mills (mill bins only) Western mills (mill bins only)	15,728 8,279 2,266	13,770 527 9 232 6,804 - 831 1,888 3,414 218	42,310 28,912 1,529 17 1,257 7,916 1,486 1,327 2,377 101	2,542 26 17 - 3,229 - 171 657 911
Total in Canada	480,952	81,127	87,238	17,781
In the United States Total Canadian grain in Canada and the United States	411 48 <u>1</u> ,363	•	- 87,238	91 17 , 872
Total Canadian grain: July 31, 1954 July 31, 1955-1954	582,675 206,838	; : 125,769 : 87,225	145,910 55,967	

^{1/} Preliminary estimates for the current season, revised estimates for earlier years.

^{2/} In bushels of 34 pounds.

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

GERMAN REPUBLIC OILSELD PRODUCTION UP SUBSTANTIALLY

Preliminary official estimates of the Republic of Germany's 1955 production of major oilseed crops show an increase from 1954 of 36 percent. Total output is placed at 23,000 short tons compared with 16,900 in 1954.

GERMAN REPUBLIC: Oilseed acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1954 and 1955

Oilseed crop	:	Area	:	Yield per acre	:	Produ	ction
	:	1954 : 1955 1/	٥	1954 : 1955 1/	:	1954:	1955 1/
	:	Acres	:	Pounds	:	Short	tons
Winter rape Spring rape			:	162.4 : 160.6 139.2 : 150.8			
Winter and spring	:	:	:	*	:	:	
turnip rape			:	108.8 : 118.7	:	1,490 :	2,210
	:	22,500 : 30,330	:		•	16,930:	23,110
1/ Preliminary							

Source: Federal Statistics Office: "Statistische Berichte", No. III/4/159, dated August 2, 1955.

While the area planted to rape and turnip rape--30,300 acres--ap sers to be a substantial increase, it does not represent a true increase. The heavy winterkill of 1953-54 excessively reduced the winter oilseed area which originally was about 22,000 to 25,000 acres.

The compulsory admixture of domestic rape oil to margarine, to assure a market for domestic oils, continues in effect.

CEYLON ANNOUNCES COFRA EXPORT DUTY REDUCTION

A reduction in the export duty on copra, effective July 8, 1955, pending approval by Parliament, was announced by the Minister of Finance of Ceylon in his budget speech for 1955-56. The reduction of the copra duty by 15 rupees (\$3.15), from 200 to 185 rupees (\$42.00 to \$38.85) per long ton had been recommended by the Committee on Coconut Duties, set up by the Minister of Finance on May 19, 1955, to inquire into complaints made by coconut producers and millers regarding the existing scale of export duties on coconut products.

The fundamental question posed by various witnesses before the committee was whether there was any justification for the preferential export duties accorded to oil and desiccated coconut over copra. The committee arrived at the conclusion that the preference given to oil over copra tended to support the price of the latter and that the oil millers were not misusing the protection given them to force down the Colombo market price. (Contid. next page.)

The oil millers in fact passed on to the nut producers a part of the duty preference given to oil. Thus, the committee recommended a reduction in the duty on copra to ensure than the coconut growers have a reasonable margin of profit. The duties on other coconut products, namely coconut oil and desiccated coconut, were to remain unchanged at 135 and 95 rupees (\$28.35 and \$19.95) per long ton, respectively.

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PAKISTAN'S OILSEED OUTPUT UP IN 1954-55

Production of major oilseeds in Pakistan in 1954-55 was about 1,045,000 short tons as compared with 922,000 tons in 1953-54. The increase of 13 percent in output from the previous season was due largely to increased acreage, but also partly to generally better yields.

PAKISTAN: Acreage and production of major vegetable oilseeds, 1953-54 and forecast 1954-55

043 3	Acreage				Production			
Oilseed	1953-54		1954-55	:	1953-54	:	1954-55	
	(1,000	O ac	res)	1	(1,000 s	hor	t tons)	
Cottonseed	2,928 1,631 216 74		3,185 1,803 212 76			•	626 363 40 16	
	•	:	, -	:				

An important consideration regarding oilseed production in Pakistan is that the bulk of production is in West Pakistan, while the major consuming area, by virtue of larger population and also a preference for vegetable oils as a cooking medium, is East Pakistan. The East Bengal consumer also has a decided preference for the pungent-flavored oil of rapeseed and mustard. Since Pakistan does not produce all the oil for this market, sizeable quantities have been imported from India. During the past 3 years, however, these imports were curtailed. This situation resulted in rising prices for domestic oils.

Total production of domestic vegetable oils in 1954 was about 140,000 tons. Some increase in output is expected this year.

Annual production of animal fats in Pakistan amounts to an estimated 140,000 tons, consisting of about 112,000 tons of ghee and 28,000 tons of beef and mutton tallow. Most of this production is consumed locally and is of little commercial importance. The share of East and West Pakistan in this total is about 12 and 88 percent, respectively.

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There are 6 factories in Fakistan producing hydrogenated vegetable oil (Vanaspati). These factories have an estimated capacity of about 30,800 tons per year, but plants are stated to be working below capacity because of a shortage of cottonseed oil and tin plate.

At present the annual requirements of Vanaspati are estimated at 16,500 tons and this amount is likely to double within the next 5 years.

Imports of fats and oils commodities into Pakistan in 1954 (with comparable data for 1953 in parentheses) included 7,782 tons of oilseeds (3,100), 1,732 tons of coconut oil (2,083), 389 tons of linseed cil (436), 65 tons of vegetable oil, n.e.s. (1,666), 2,728 tons of tallow (1,002), and 54 tons of fish oil (270 tons).

While production of domestic vegetable oils may increase some this year, supplies are still short of demand. This fact, plus curtailed imports due to monetary difficulties, has caused a sceady rise in prices of domestic oils.

The above factors were responsible for the Government of Pakistan's request for United States fats and oils under Public Laws 480 and 565. Under these programs Pakistan is to get about 9.160 tons of U.S. cottenseed oil, 4,170 tons of linseed oil. 2,000 tons of tallow and, an as yet undetermined quantity of ghee.

ITALY ALLOCATES \$6 MILLION FOR TALLOW IMPORTATION

According to trade sources, the Italian Ministry of Finance, in cooperation with other interested Ministries, has agreed to grant \$6 million for importation of inedible animal tallow. This new allocation was made in response to requests from the industry. Official announcement of the dollar allocation is expdcted at any time.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U. S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Issued recently and available free upon request from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Australian Hops Supply and Demand Situation During 1954-55. Foreign Ag. Circ. FH-3-55

World Consumption Trends in Meat. Foreign Ag. Circ. FLM-13-44

United States Exports and Imports of Unmanufactured Tobacco, January June 1955, With Comparisons. Foreign Ag. Circ. FT-43-55

United States Exports of Manufactured Tobacco, January-June 1955, With Comparisons. Foreign Ag. Circ. FT-44-55

